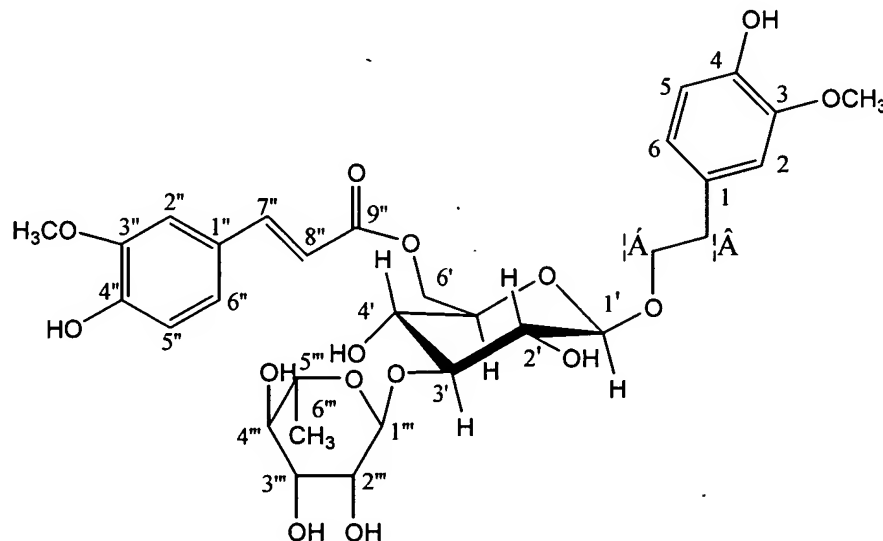


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 have been amended and new claims 6-18 have been added. A listing of the claims follows and replaces all prior listing of the claims.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A compound[[,.]] named epimeredinoside A having with the following formula I as follows: [[,.]]



I

Claim 2 (Currently amended): ~~[[A]] Oral pharmaceuticals from *Epimeredi indica* root extract, wherein the pharmaceuticals related to any oral pharmaceuticals, which is composed of extracts from comprising:~~

Epimeredi indica root extracts comprised of from 0.10 to 1.50% by weight of epimeredinoside A which have been extracted with water and concentrated by distillation; and

~~at least one all kinds of pharmaceutical adjuvant; this extract is obtained from extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root after being extracted by water and concentrated by distillation; the contents of epimeredinoside A in this extract have the range from 0.10 to 1.50% according to claim 1.~~

Claim 3 (Currently amended): ~~The oral pharmaceuticals~~ Pharmaceuticals from *Epimeredi indica* root extract according to claim 2, wherein the oral pharmaceuticals mentioned are represented by any kinds of oral forms widely used in medical area have any form which is used orally including hard capsule, soft capsule, granule, tablet, and oral liquid and so on.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A preparation method ~~[[of the]]~~ for preparing oral pharmaceuticals from *Epimeredi indica* root extract according to claim 2; wherein the preparation procedures of the *Epimeredi indica* root extract are as following ~~.~~ comprising:

making a powder of 1) powdering the roots of the *Epimeredi indica* roots; then add

adding water to the powder in an amount of about 10 times that of the powder amount of water to extract and extracting for a time ranging from 1 to 2 hours;

filtering to obtain a first filtrate and a first cake;

adding water to the first cake in an amount of about 10 times that of the first cake and extracting for a time ranging from 1 to 2 hours;

filtering to obtain a second filtrate and a second cake;

combining the first filtrate and the second filtrate to provide a combined filtrate;

concentrating the combined filtrate two times, 1~2 hours per time. After filtration, it was concentrated as extracta sicca as *extracta sicca* to a density ranging from [[of]] 1.01 to 1.08(25~30) and a content of epimeredinoside A ranging from 0.10 to 1.50%

as determined by HPLC;

~~drying the *extracta sicca*, then dried by spray or vacuum. The contents of epimeredinoside A in this extract are 0.10 to 1.50% by HPLC; and mixing predetermined quantities of the dried extract and at least one adjuvant 2) mix extracts and adjuvants well in proportion to prepare various oral pharmaceuticals conventionally by one of wet or dry granulation.~~

Claim 5 (Currently amended): ~~The preparation~~ Preparation method of the *Epimeredi indica* root extract according claim 4, wherein the content determination method of Epimeredinoside of epimeredinoside A in the dried extract extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root in the present invention determined by HPLC comprises the following steps of:

~~a. providing (1) an HPLC apparatus, 1) Apparatus and Materials: Apparatus: Agilent 1100 HPLC system (2) a Standard sample of[:]] epimeredinoside A, (3) HPLC grade chemical Chemical reagents[:]] including methanol, acetonitrile, and distilled water and other reagents were HPLC-grade Sample: E, and (4) extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root (Shanghai Yaogang Biotechnology Ltd.Co.)2) Chromatographic~~

~~b. operating the HPLC apparatus under conditions[:]] including (1) using a Chromatographic column: Discovery C₁₈ (250mm ×4.6 mm, 5μm), (2) using a mobile Mobile phase[:]] which is a mixture of acetonitrile and water having an acetonitrile: water [[:]] ratio of 27:73, (3) using a flow Flow rate[:]] of 1.0ml/min, (4) using a column Column temperature[:]] which is room temperature, and (5) using a detection-Detection wavelength[:]] of 320nm, and (6) using an injection Injection volume[:]] of 20μl;~~

~~c. generating a calibration 3) Calibration curve[:]] by (1) preparing ① Preparation of standard stock solutions of epimeredinoside A having respective concentrations : The standard (4.95 mg) were weighed, dissolved, and diluted with methanol in a 25 ml volumetric flask to obtain standard stock solutions for the calibration curves; ②The Calibration Curves: The stock solution 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0 ml were weighed, dissolved, and diluted with methanol in 2 ml volumetric flask to obtain standard solutions at the concentration of 39.6 μg/ml, 79.2 μg/ml, 118.8 μg/ml, 158.4 μg/ml, and 198 μg/ml respectively; (2) subjecting a total of 20 μL of each standard solution was~~

subject to HPLC quantitative analysis; (3) ~~generating a calibration curve was generated~~ to confirm the ~~a~~ linear relationship between the peak area ratio (Y axis) and the concentrations of the standard ~~solutions~~ (X axis);

~~in the test samples; the calibration curves were found to be linear and could be described by the regression equations $Y=20.139X-154.35$, with coefficient of $R^2=0.9994$; the ranges of calibration curves was $0.792-3.96\text{ }\mu\text{g}$, and the retention time of epimeredinoside A was 9.55 min;~~

4) ~~Sample determination~~ **Preparation of the standard solutions:** The standard was accurately weighed, dissolved, and diluted with methanol in a volumetric flask to obtain standard solutions; a total of 20 μL of standard solution was subject to HPLC quantitative analysis and the peak area was recorded; the contents of epimeredinoside A was calculated using the calibration curves accordingly, see Fig 2;

Preparation of the sample solutions: The extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root (176.66 mg) was accurately weighted, and extracted with by ultrasonication at room temperature for 2 times, then centrifuged; the supernatant were combined and diluted with water in a 10 ml volumetric flask. The solution was filtered through a syringe filter ($0.45\text{ }\mu\text{m}$);

d. preparing test samples; and

e. subjecting the sample solutions were subjected to the HPLC quantitative analysis as described above;

f. determining the content of epimeredinoside A in samples were calculated according to in the test samples from the calibration curves[[:]] using, as a formula for calculation, is as follows: $Y=20.139X-154.35$, where Y is \div value of peak area and X is \div value of sample concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) the contents of epimeredinoside A in sample is demonstrated as $X*10/\text{amount of sample}*100\%$.

Claim 6 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein the HPLC apparatus which is an Agilent 1100 HPLC system.

Claim 7 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein the extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root were obtained from Shanghai Yaogang Biotechnology Ltd.Co.

Claim 8 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A is accomplished by (1) weighing 4.95 mg of epimeredinoside A, and dissolving and diluting with the methanol in a 25 ml volumetric flask to provide a standard stock solution, and (2) measuring 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0 ml of the standard stock solution into 2 ml volumetric flasks and diluting with methanol to provide standard solutions having respective concentrations of 39.6 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, 79.2 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, 118.8 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, 158.4 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, and 198 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

Claim 9 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis is accomplished by using a total of 20 μL of each standard solution.

Claim 10 (New): The preparation method according to claim 5, wherein, in step (c), the calibration curves were linear and were described by a regression equation $Y=20.139 X - 154.35$, with coefficient $R^2 = 0.9994$.

Claim 11 (New): The preparation method according to claim 10, wherein the calibration curves ranged from 0.792 – 3.96 μg , and retention time of epimeredinoside A in the HPLC apparatus was 9.55 min.

Claim 12 (New): A method for determining content of epimeredinoside A in an extract of *Epimeredi indica* root using HPLC, the method comprising the steps of:

a. providing (1) an HPLC apparatus, (2) a Standard sample of epimeredinoside A, (3) HPLC grade chemical reagents including methanol, acetonitrile, and distilled water, and (4) extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root

b. operating the HPLC apparatus under conditions including (1) using a Chromatographic column: Discovery C₁₈ (250mm \times 4.6 mm, 5 μm), (2) using a mobile

phase which is a mixture of acetonitrile and water having an acetonitrile: water ratio of 27:73, (3) using a flow rate of 1.0ml/min, (4) using a column temperature which is room temperature, and (5) using a detection wavelength of 320nm, and (6) using an injection volume of 20 μ l;

c. generating a calibration curve by (1) preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A having respective concentrations of 39.6 μ g/ml, 79.2 μ g/ml, 118.8 μ g/ml, 158.4 μ g/ml, and 198 μ g/ml; (2) subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis; (3) generating a calibration curve to confirm a linear relationship between peak area ratio (Y axis) and the concentrations of the standard solutions (X axis);

d. preparing test samples; and

e. subjecting the sample solutions to the HPLC quantitative analysis;

f. determining the content of epimeredinoside A in the test samples from the calibration curves using, as a formula for calculation, $Y=20.139X-154.35$, where Y is peak area and X is sample concentration (μ g/ml).

Claim 13 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein the HPLC apparatus which is an Agilent 1100 HPLC system.

Claim 14 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein the extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root were obtained from Shanghai Yaogang Biotechnology Ltd.Co.

Claim 15 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A is accomplished by (1) weighing 4.95 mg of epimeredinoside A, and dissolving and diluting with the methanol in a 25 ml volumetric flask to provide a standard stock solution, and (2) measuring 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0 ml of the standard stock solution into 2 ml volumetric flasks and diluting with methanol to provide standard solutions having respective concentrations of 39.6 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, 79.2 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, 118.8 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, 158.4 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, and 198 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

Claim 16 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis is accomplished by using a total of 20 μL of each standard solution.

Claim 17 (New): The preparation method according to claim 12, wherein, in step (c), the calibration curves were linear and were described by a regression equation $Y=20.139 X - 154.35$, with coefficient $R^2 = 0.9994$.

Claim 18 (New): The preparation method according to claim 17, wherein the calibration curves ranged from 0.792 – 3.96 μg , and retention time of epimeredinoside A in the HPLC apparatus was 9.55 min.